



Speech
of Mr. Abdennebi Manar, Director General of ACAO,
to the 39 Ordinary Plenary Session of ECAC
12 July 2021

**Your Excellency Mr Alessio Quaranta President of the
European Civil Aviation Conference;**

**Your Excellencies European Civil Aviation Conference
members;**

Distinguished Representatives of friendly countries,

**Distinguished Representatives of International and Regional
Organizations,**

Honorable Audience,

It is a great pleasure for me to take part to the Thirty-Ninth Ordinary Plenary Session of European Civil Aviation Conference. It is my second Participation, but This time it is a virtual one.

Let me begin by expressing my sincere congratulation to **The new** elected President of ECAC, and wish him every success in

this position and in the important new responsibilities, especially during this difficult period.

I Also take this opportunity to address my warm thanks to H.E Ms **Ingrid Cherfils**, for all the efforts that you have made during your presidency of ECAC.

And I would like to make a point of thanking and appreciating H.E. Ms **Patricia Reverdy**, Secretary Executive of ECAC for this kind invitation and for effort to organize the 39 ECAC Assembly.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The cooperation between our respective Organizations is very close and legendry, and it has continued to grow over time. This growing cooperation was crowned by the signing on May 2019 of a mutual work program 2019-2021 with a view to strengthening mutual cooperation through stronger work links, information sharing, and identifying areas of mutual activities. This Cooperation was successful through the sharing the same vision, the same missions and same objectives.

In this context, ACAO and ECAC and CASE Project organized several activities for strengthen capacity building through regional and national activities. And In recent years, Lot of States have the the opportunity to benefit from many training offered by CASE Project.

As such, on January 2020, ECAC and ACAO with AFCAC organized a joint regional seminar on « innovation and Cybersecurity ». it was a successful event, and a fruit of mutually beneficial cooperation.

In the same vein, ACAO will continue to work with ECAC in areas requiring specific competencies and capabilities to provide the best results, notably cybersecurity and the emerging threats. For example Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS).

I am optimistic and confident that this cooperation will continue with the new ECAC President and executive committee, by improving mechanisms for consultation, periodic reviews of regional and international issues, to contribute to a sustainable air transport industry. and, with the willingness of both parties, we can raise it to the highest level.

During 2022, we plan to organize with ECAC the second edition of the regional seminar on innovation and cybersecurity, and the first joint seminar on RPAS.

Also, the environment will be a priority for joint work with the ECAC for the few next year.

Honorable Audience,

During the Corona Pandemic, the international community convinced of the air transport role of the in the global economy in terms of GDP and jobs creation, made great efforts to coordinate and to harmonization regulations and procedures, in order to grant a safe and secure air transport activity during the post-pandemic period.

In this context, the ECAC and ACAO teams regularly organize meetings to outline the prospects for the future and to pinpoint a number of cooperation activities under the MoU signed by both Organization. and we will continue on this approach in order to achieve the expected objectives.

ACAO has been able to make several achievements in air transport, air navigation, aviation safety, Aviation security and environment, and spares no effort to meet the challenges imposed by structural, organizational, technical and economic developments.

I take this opportunity to inform you that the General Assembly of our organization Chaired by the republic of Lebanon, at the conclusion of its 26th session, held in Rabat on 01-02 July 2021,

issued a “Rabat Statement” on measures to confront the emerging coronavirus pandemic, and mechanisms for the civil aviation recovery.

The statement Calls upon the Arab countries to continue to communicate and coordinate with the relevant health authorities for the dissemination of the standards upon which their travel procedures are based during the COVID19 pandemic, which take into account the CART guidelines, while working on the mutual recognition of health certificates with other countries and/or groups of countries.

It Urges the lifting of travel restrictions, taking into account the various risk-based guidelines issued by the World Health Organization, regarding health measures related to international traffic, including clear recommendations on testing or vaccination approaches while avoiding quarantine measures for travelers, and taking into account recent developments in terms of dissemination of COVID-19 vaccines and the secured immunity from previous infection.

It Requires also reliance on public health corridors as a temporary solution for countries that agree on mutual standards of travel and health measures, yet emphasizing that air services operations between those countries should be based on existing agreed air transportation arrangements.

And it Calls for entering into direct talks with states or groups of states, in order to reach a mutual recognition of vaccination certificates.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am pleased to thank once again ECAC Secretariat for the excellent organization of this event. and I wish you every success in the works of this assembly, whose contents will certainly be profitable and enriching for all the participants and this, in the general interest of the international civil aviation.

Thank you for your attention.